JUDGE: Mary Jo Heston 1 CHAPTER: **HEARING LOCATIONS: TACOMA** 2 HEARING DATE: JULY 19, 2018 HEARING TIME: 9:00 A.M. 3 **RESPONSE DATE:** JULY 12, 2018 4 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 5 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 6 Dolce Si, LLC Bankruptcy Case No. 18-41191-MJH 7 Chapter 7 8 Motion for Relief from Stay 9 Debtor. 10 In re: 11 Elisabetta Rosalinda O'Shea, ) Bankruptcy Case No. 18-41204-MJH and Steven Patrick O'Shea, 12 Chapter 7 13 Debtor. Motion for Relief from Stay 14 15 16 MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM STAY AND BRIEF IN SUPPORT 17 Movant Point Ruston Apartments, LLC, by and through undersigned counsel, pursuant 18 19 to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d) and Bankruptcy Rule 4001, requests an order conditioning, modifying, or dissolving the automatic stay imposed by 11 U.S.C. § 362 of the Bankruptcy Code. Movant prays 20 for an Order from the Court granting Movant relief from the automatic stay and to allow it to 21 22 foreclose on its statutory landlord's lien under state law and procedures and to re-lease the premises covered by the Dolce Si lease to new tenants. Movant seeks any further relief to which the Movant 23 may be entitled. 24 25 26 MOTION TO LIFT STAY Law Offices of Jack B. Krona Jr. 5219 N. Shirley St. #100

Doc 15

Case 18-41204-MJH

Filed 06/28/18

Ruston, WA 98407 (253) 341-9331

Pg. 1 of 10

The Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). The venue of this case is proper and this Motion is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1408 and 1409.

II.

Movant is the holder of a landlord's lien, more particularly described in paragraph IV, below, and has standing to bring this motion because of its status as a secured creditor.

III.

On April 4, 2018, Dolce Si, LLC ("Dolce Si") filed a petition for relief under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. Movant is a secured creditor. Mark Waldron has been appointed Trustee. On June 6, 2018, Waldron indicated his intent to abandon the property subject to the Movant's landlord lien. (June 6, 2018, "Ch. 7 Trustee Report of No Distribution," ECF Docket Entry, Case No. 18-41191-MJH.)

IV.

Effective May 7, 2015, Dolce Si entered a "Mixed-Use Center Lease Agreement" with Point Ruston Apartments, LLC ("Movant" or "PRA"). Elisabetta Rosalinda O'Shea is a lease guarantor and manager and member of Dolce Si, who also concurrently filed an individual Chapter 7 Bankruptcy along with her Husband, Steven Patrick O'Shea. Dolce Si used the premises to operate the Dolce Si Bakery at 5005 Main St., Suite 105, Tacoma, WA 98407, a copy of which is attached to the Declaration of Steven Willock in support of this motion as Exhibit A. Dolce Si vacated the property and repudiated the lease before filing for bankruptcy. Dolce Si owes Movant for more than two months in unpaid rent. RCW 60.72.010 grants Movant a statutory lien for such rent upon personal property which has been used or kept on the rented property by the tenant, and such liens for rent "shall be paramount to, and have preference over, all other liens except for liens

MOTION TO LIFT STAY

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for taxes, general and special liens of labor, and liens of mortgages duly recorded prior to the tenancy." The two-month past-due rent amount is \$13,774.28.

V.

The landlord's lien granted by RCW 60.72.010 to secure two-months of rent attaches to the property specifically listed in the Appraisal Report of Joshua Pearce, a copy of which is attached to the Willock Declaration as Exhibit B, as well as any other personal property left on the premises.

VI.

The landlord's lien attaches to the property and was perfected by operation of law without the necessity of a writing or recording. See RCW 60.72.010.

VII.

The total value of the property subject to the lien is estimated at \$14,070.20. The valuation method Bargreens used in the attached report was 10% of new value, which is based upon its current location. Any buyer would need to move the equipment, and much of the equipment is hard-wired. So, the buyer would also need to hire and pay an electrician before they could remove the equipment. Factoring moving costs, the costs of an electrician, and considering that Movant has been storing the equipment for several weeks now, a more reasonable value for the equipment is closer to 5% of new value. Also, the appraisal included items which are clearly fixtures and were never intended to be the tenant's property after lease termination/expiration. These include the sinks, counter-tops, hood, and walk-in cooler. (Willock Declaration.)

Overall, to document the actual value of the equipment, Movant has prepared a spreadsheet, a copy of which is attached to the Willock Declaration as Exhibit C. The spreadsheet omits the fixtures noted above and identifies the equipment value based upon the 5% valuation method. The total value for all such equipment is estimated to be \$14,070.20, which approximates the value of movants landlord's lien and does not include the costs associated with asserting this

MOTION TO LIFT STAY

Law Offices of Jack B. Krona Jr. 5219 N. Shirley St. #100 Ruston, WA 98407 (253) 341-9331

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lien for moving for relief from the stay. The Movant seeks to foreclose on its landlord's lien under state law and procedures, and will liquidate the value of the property subject to the lien through a sale authorized by state law and procedure.

Although the property at issue belonged to Dolce Si, Movant concurrently filed this motion in both the Dolce Si and the O'Shea's bankruptcy proceeding. As demonstrated by the signature of Dolce Si's counsel, who also represents Elisabetta Rosalinda O'Shea and Steven Patrick O'Shea in their concurrently filed individual bankruptcy, who are collectively referred to herein as the "Debtors," the Debtors stipulate that the two-months past-due Rent amount is \$13,774.28 and that the liquidation value of the equipment as estimated by the Movant (\$14,070.20) is a fair and reasonable valuation. The Debtors stipulate that the Moyant's motion to lift stay to foreclose its landlord lien should be granted. The Debtors stipulate that the Movant has a valid landlords' lien on any equipment (and anything else, including personal property) remaining on the premises and that the value of the lien exceeds any claim the Debtors might otherwise have to the remainder of the proceeds of the lien after the lien is liquidated, through a sale or otherwise, and that they have no equity in any equipment (and anything else, including personal property) remaining on the premises. The Debtors also stipulate that the Dolce Si lease was terminated before the Dolce Si and the personal bankruptcies were filed.

## VIII.

Under the terms of the commercial lease, the Dolce Si was required to pay monthly rent. As of the date of the filing of the Petition, the Dolce Si was in default under the lease and failed to pay the monthly rent as required. Dolce Si has applied all monthly payments it received to the total amount due. As of June 28, 2018, there is currently due and owing on the lease the outstanding principal balance of \$156,743.01 in rent, utility charges and late fees. This amount does not include interest. Other obligations may be due.

MOTION TO LIFT STAY

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IV.

Other parties known to potentially have an interest in property subject to the Landlord's lien are Kabbage, Inc., 925B Peachtree St. NE #1688, Atlanta, GA 30309. All interested parties are being served with a copy of this motion.

X.

Movant is entitled to relief from the automatic stay pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 362(d)(1) and 362(d)(2) because Dolce Si has no equity in the property subject to the lien and the property is not necessary to effectuate any plan of reorganization. Also, the Trustee has indicated an intent to abandon the property of the Dolce Si and the Debtors stipulate that the relief requested herein should be granted.

XI.

Movant attaches a Declaration in support of this motion as Exhibit 1, and a Proposed Order as Exhibit 2.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Movant prays for an Order from the Court granting Movant relief from the automatic stay and to allow it to foreclose on its statutory landlord's lien under state law and procedures and to re-lease the premises to new tenants. Movant further requests that the 14-day stay period provided by Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure Rule 4001(a)(3) be waived. Movant seeks any further relief to which the Movant may be entitled.

DATED this 28th day of June 2018.

Law Offices of Jack B. Krona, Jr., Esq.

By/s/

Jack B. Krona Jr., Esq. WSBA# 42484

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Case 18-41204-MJH Doc 15 Filed 06/28/18 Ent. 96/28/18 16:39:53 Pg. 5 of 10

## Stipulated and Agreed By:

Brett Wittner

Morton McGoldrick, P.S. Counsel for Dolce Si, LLC, Elisabetta Rosalinda O'Shea and Steven Patrick O'Shea

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Filed 06/28/18 Ent. 96/28/18 16:39:53 Case 18-41204-MJH Doc 15 Pg. 6 of 10

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

On this 28th day of June 2018, I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that I served the above document on the parties listed in the attached Creditors Matrix as of June 28, 2018:

Law Offices of Jack B. Krona, Jr., Esq.

By <u>/s/</u> Jack B. Krona Jr., Esq.

WSBA# 42484

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Case 18-41204-MJH Doc 15 Filed 06/28/18 Ent. 96/28/18 16:39:53 Pg. 7 of 10

Label Matrix for local noticing 0981 - 3Case 18-41204-MJH Western District of Washington Tacoma Thu Jun 28 13:25:59 PDT 2018

U.S. Bankruptcy Court 1717 Pacific Avenue Suite 2100 Tacoma, WA 98402-3233

Bank of America PO Box 851001 Dallas, TX 75285-1001

Muckleshoot Casino 6370 Auburn Way S. Auburn, WA 98002

Point Ruston c/o Rainier Property Services 5219 N. Shirley St. Tacoma, WA 98407-6599

(p) WA STATE DEPT OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES BANKRUPTCY UNIT PO BOX 44171 OLYMPIA WA 98504-4171

United States Trustee 700 Stewart St Ste 5103 Seattle, WA 98101-4438

Elisabetta Rosalinda O'Shea 3216 N. Stevens St. Tacoma, WA 98407-4741

Santander Consumer USA Inc. c/o Stewart, Zlimen & Jungers, Ltd. 2860 Patton Road Roseville, MN 55113-1100

American Express PO Box 981535 El Paso, TX 79998-1535

Dolce Si, LLC 3216 N. Stevens St. Tacoma, WA 98407-4741

NASA Federal Credit Union PO Box 1910 Bowie, MD 20717-1910

Point Ruston Apartments, LLC 5219 N. Shirley St. Tacoma, WA 98407-6599

State of Washington Employment Security Department PO Box 9046 Olympia, WA 98507-9046

(p) VOLKSWAGEN CREDIT UNION 1401 FRANKLIN BLVD LIBERTYVILLE IL 60048-4460

Mark D Waldron 6711 Regents Blvd W Suite B Tacoma, WA 98466-5421

VW CREDIT, INC. 14841 Dallas Parkway, Suite 300 Dallas, TX 75254-7883

American Express National Bank c/o Becket and Lee LLP PO Box 3001 Malvern PA 19355-0701

TRC PO Box 7346 Philadelphia, PA 19101-7346

Navy Federal Credit Union PO Box 3500 Merrifield, VA 22119-3500

Santander Consumer USA PO Box 961245 Terrell, TX 75161

USAA Bank 9800 Fredericksburg Rd. San Antonio, TX 78288-0002

Brett L Wittner Morton McGoldrick, P.S. 820 A Street Suite 600 Tacoma, WA 98402-5293

Steven Patrick O'Shea 3216 N. Stevens St. Tacoma, WA 98407-4741

The preferred mailing address (p) above has been substituted for the following entity/entities as so specified by said entity/entities in a Notice of Address filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f) and Fed.R.Bank.P. 2002 (g) (4).

State of Washington Department of L&I PO Box 44171 Olympia, WA 98504

(d) State of Washington Department of Revenue PO Box 44171 Olympia, WA 98504

Volkswagen Credit PO Box 3 Hillsboro, OR 97123-0003 End of Label Matrix
Mailable recipients 23
Bypassed recipients 0
Total 23

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Comcast PO Box 34744 Seattle, WA 98124-1744

Kabbage, Inc. 925B Peachtree St. NE #1688 Atlanta, GA 30309-3918

Point Ruston c/o Rainier Property Services 5219 N. Shirley St. Tacoma, WA 98407-6599

State of Washington Employment Security Department PO Box 9046 Olympia, WA 98507-9046

United States Trustee 700 Stewart St Ste 5103 Seattle, WA 98101-4438 Dolce Si, LLC 3216 N. Stevens St. Tacoma, WA 98407-4741

Elavon 7300 Chapman Hwy Knoxville, TN 37920-6612

Liberty Distributing 909 Valley Ave. NW Puyallup, WA 98371-2517

Point Ruston Apartments, LLC 5219 N. Shirley St. Tacoma, WA 98407-6599

Steve and Elisabetta O'Shea 3216 N. Stevens St. Tacoma, WA 98407-4741

Brett L Wittner Morton McGoldrick, P.S. 820 A Street Suite 600 Tacoma, WA 98402-5293 U.S. Bankruptcy Court 1717 Pacific Avenue Suite 2100

Tacoma, WA 98402-3233

IRS PO Box 7346 Philadelphia, PA 19101-7346

Navy Federal Credit Union PO Box 3500 Merrifield, VA 22119-3500

(p) WA STATE DEPT OF LABOR € INDUSTRIES BANKRUPTCY UNIT PO BOX 44171

OLYMPIA WA 98504-4171

Tacoma Public Utilities 3628 S. 35th St. Tacoma, WA 98409-3192

Mark D Waldron 6711 Regents Blvd W Suite B Tacoma, WA 98466-5421

The preferred mailing address (p) above has been substituted for the following entity/entities as so specified by said entity/entities in a Notice of Address filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f) and Fed.R.Bank.P. 2002 (g) (4).

State of Washington Department of L&I PO Box 44171 Olympia, WA 98504 (d)State of Washington Department of Revenue PO Box 44171 Olympia, WA 98504

End of Label Matrix
Mailable recipients 17
Bypassed recipients 0
Total 17